Creation of SPV by NTPC

5589. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased >*o* state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC will create a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) worth Rs.! 00 ^rore for environmental protection and water management;

(b) whether it is also a fact that one per cent of the capital cost for setting up a power plant would be kept aside for afforestation and water management; and

(c) if so, the progress made on this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) As decided by Ministry of Power, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) would create a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for environment protection and water management. The SPV would be floated under NTPC in which 1% of the capital cost for setting up of a power plant is contemplated to be set aside for afforestation and water management. The scope of SP^V would be expanded later on so as to include other public sector undertakings of the Ministry of Power. NTPC is working on the details for formation of SPV.

Power from thermal plants

5590. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 70 per cent of the installed capacity of power in the country comes from thermal plants;

(b) whether the old technology being used in these psants provide poor load factors, inefficiency poiiution and are not cost effective;

(c) whether moderni:-at<on of the existing plants can boost power generation, control pollution and meet the growing demands for power in the cheapest and quickest way; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) As on 31.3.2000, thermal installed capacity constitutes about 71.73% of the totat installed capacity in the country.